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PATENT  
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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Nagayuki TAKAO et al. Conf.: 1864  
Appl. No.: 09/820,313 Group: 1714  
Filed: March 29, 2001 Examiner: Callie Shosho  
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SECOND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

April 29, 2003

Sir:

In reply to the Examiner's Office Action dated January 29, 2003, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.